

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-01 PRS-01 SCA-01 NSC-05

NSCE-00 L-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 SY-02 SSO-00

INRE-00 /040 W

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O 200630Z AUG 75 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7797

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 4076

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PINT, PINS, SREF, BG

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ASYLUM

REF: A) DACCA 4058; B) DEPT'S A-270, JANUARY 11, 1972

1. FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED BY REPAIR IS PROVIDED
FROM FURTHER CONVERSATION BETWEEN MAJOR MOHIUDDIN
AHMED AND EMBOFF:

- A) MAJOR MOHIUDDIN AHMED, BANGLADESH NATIONAL.
 - B) BORN FEBRUARY 25, 1947 AT VILLAGE MOUDUBI,
POLICE STATION GALACHIPA, DISTRICT PATUAKHALI;
MILITARY OFFICER WHOSE UNIT IS SECOND FIELD
ARTILLERY REGIMENT.
 - C) HE HAS NO DOCUMENTATION WITH HIM; HOWEVER, HIS
IDENTITY HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY AN EMBOFF.
 - D) WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATORY KNOWLEDGE THAT MAJOR
MOHIUDDIN IS BEING SOUGHT.
 - E) MOHIUDDIN BELIEVES THAT HE AND THE OTHER YOUNG
OFFICERS ARE ABOUT TO BE ELIMINATED (I.E. KILLED)
BY THE SENIOR OFFICERS; HE ASSERTS THAT CHIEF
OF ARMY STAFF (COAS) MAJOR GENERAL SHAFIULLAH
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HEADS THIS EFFORT. MOHIUDDIN SAYS THAT AT

MIDAY ON AUGUST 19, HE WAS TOLD HE AND HIS UNIT WERE ABOUT TO BE RELIEVED FROM DUTY AT GANOBHABAN (USED BY MUJIB AS PRESIDENTIAL OFFICES). HE IMMEDIATELY CONCLUDED THAT THE COUP LEADERS WERE ABOUT TO BE REPLACED AND THUS WENT AT 1400. TO BANGOBHABAN (BEING USED BY PRESIDENT MUSHTAQUE) TO WARN THE FOUR COUP LEADERS -- MAJORS RASHID, FAROOQ, MOHIUDDIN (OF LANCERS) AND DALIM -- OF THE DANGER. HE SAW FAROOQ, AND THEN RETURNED TO GANOBHABAN WHERE AT 2030 HE WAS RELIEVED AND ORDERED TO RETURN WITH HIS MEN TO THE CANTONMENT. AFTER REACHING HIS QUARTERS, HE WAS TELEPHONED AT 2115 BY A COLONEL ANWAR HUSSAIN OF HIS REGIMENT WHO ORDERED HIM NOT TO LEAVE THE CANTONMENT; COLONEL HUSSAIN STATED THAT HE WAS SPEAKING UNDER THE ORDERS OF THE COAS. MOHIUDDIN DISCUSSED HIS RELIEF AND THE TELEPHONE CALL WITH HIS WIFE. THEY CONCLUDED THAT MOHIUDDIN'S LIFE WAS THREATENED AND SO THEY SLIPPED OUT OF THEIR QUARTERS, THE MAJOR DRESSED IN KURTA AND PAJAMA, AND CAUGHT A BUS OUT OF THE CANTONMENT. AFTER PASSING THE NIGHT WITH THE WIFE'S FATHER, THEY SLIPPED INTO DACCA AND PRESENTED THEMSELVES AT THE EMBASSY AT ABOUT 0830 AUGUST 20.

F) MAJOR MOHIUDDIN AND HIS WIFE ARE NOW IN THE EMBASSY; THEY HAVE LEFT THEIR FIVE MONTH-OLD CHILD WITH THE WIFE'S PARENTS.

G) MAJOR MOHIUDDIN ASSERTS THAT HE RISKS DEATH IF HE IS APPREHENDED BY THE MILITARY. HE CLAIMS THAT A "WANTED LIST" EXISTS UNDER WHICH HE AND AT LEAST EIGHT COUP PERPETRATORS ARE TO BE SEIZED. WHILE THE CHARGES WILL BE MUTINY AND DISOBEDIENCE, HE DOES NOT THINK ANY COURT MARTIAL WILL BE HELD. RATHER, WHEN APPREHENDED, THOSE ON ONE LIST WILL BE SUMMARILY KILLED.

H) SEE ABOVE.

I) MAJOR MOHIUDDIN SAYS THAT HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE AWAMI LEAGUE'S STUDENT FRONT -- THE CHHATRO LEAGUE -- BETWEEN 1964 AND 1966 BUT HAS HAD NO POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS SINCE THEN. HE SPEAKS
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OF THE COUP AS A "REVOLUTION" AND DESCRIBES THE COUP PERPETRATORS AS "THE REVOLUTIONARY OFFICERS" BUT THE POLITICAL CONTEXT SEEMS, AT THE VERY MOST, VAGUE.

2. SINCE MAJOR MOHIUDDIN'S WIFE IS WITH HIM, WE REPORT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING HIS WIFE:

A) MRS. SHAHIDA PARVEEN

B) SHE BELIEVES SHE WAS BORN IN DECEMBER 1955 AT DACCA;
HOUSEWIFE.

C) HAS NO DOCUMENTS.

3. WE ARE PRESENTLY ENDEAVORING ASSESS CREDIBILITY OF
MAJOR MOHIUDDIN'S STORY AND THE ADEQUACY OF HIS BELIEF
THAT HE IS ENDANGERED. WE WILL PROVIDE OUR COMMENTS
AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE.
BOSTER

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